



NEONATAL

CASPOFUNGIN




This document should be read in conjunction with this [DISCLAIMER](#)

Highly Restricted: Requires Microbiologist approval before commencing

Presentation	Vial: 50mg
Classification	Echinocandin antifungal
Indication	Treatment of invasive fungal infections by susceptible fungi including <i>Aspergillus</i> and <i>Candida</i> who are refractory to or intolerant of other agents
Dose	<p><u>Severe Fungal Infection</u></p> <p>IV:</p> <p>25mg/m² once daily</p> <p>Body Surface Area (BSA) estimation in neonates</p> <p>If the BSA cannot be calculated or is unreliable, the following regimen can be used in consultation with Microbiology:</p> <p>IV: 1-2mg/kg once daily</p>
Monitoring	Monitor for histamine-related (allergic) reactions during administration Periodic measurement of serum potassium, calcium, and hepatic transaminases
Dose Adjustment	Consider dosage reduction in hepatic impairment No adjustments required for renal impairment
Guidelines & Resources	WNHS Antimicrobial Restriction List

Compatible Fluids	Sodium chloride 0.9% Caspofungin is <u>NOT</u> compatible with Glucose
Preparation	<p>Allow vial to reach room temperature before reconstitution</p> <p>IV: available from CIVAS (KEMH & PCH)</p> <p>Step 1: Reconstitution</p> <p>Add 10.5 mL of Sodium Chloride 0.9% to a 50 mg vial. Do not shake vial.</p> <p>Gently rotate the vial until a clear solution is obtained.</p> <p>Concentration = 5.2 mg/mL</p> <p><i>Note: The above concentration is correct as per the product information.</i></p> <p>Do not administer without further dilution – see Step 2</p> <p>Step 2 Dilution</p> <p>Take 1 mL (5.2 mg) of the above solution and add 9.4 mL of sodium chloride 0.9% to a final volume of 10.4 mL.</p> <p>Concentration is 5.2 mg/10.4 mL = <u>0.5 mg/mL</u></p>
Administration	<p><u>IV Infusion:</u></p> <p>Infuse over 60 minutes</p>
Adverse Reactions	<p>Common: Nausea, vomiting, hypokalaemia, increased liver enzymes, skin reactions, fever, infusion site reaction</p> <p>Serious: Anaphylactic reactions, anaemia, ascites, bradycardia,</p>
Storage	<p>Vial: Refrigerate- do not freeze. Store at 2 to 8 °C.</p> <p>Reconstituted solution: Discard excess solution immediately after use</p>
Notes	Caspofungin is <u>NOT</u> compatible with Glucose
References	<p>Ainsworth SB. Neonatal formulary 7: drug use in pregnancy and the first year of life. Seventh ed. Chichester (West Sussex): John Wiley & Sons Inc.; 2015. 132-133.</p> <p>Phelps SJ, Hageman TM, Lee KR, Thompson AJ. Pediatric injectable drugs : the teddy bear book. Tenth ed. Bethesda (Maryland): American Society of Health-System Pharmacists; 2013. P 118</p> <p>Takemoto CK, Hodding JH, Kraus DM. Pediatric & neonatal dosage handbook with international trade names index: a universal resource for clinicians treating pediatric and neonatal patients. 24th ed. Hudson</p>

	<p>(Ohio): Lexicomp; 2401. 2, p364-366.</p> <p>Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia. Caspofungin. In: Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook [Internet]. [St Leonards, New South Wales]: Health Communication Network; 2025 [cited 2025 Feb 08]. Available from: http://aidh.hcn.com.au</p> <p>Caspofungin. In British national formulary for children Joint Formulary Committee (September 2018-19) <i>BNF 74: September 2018-19</i>. London: Pharmaceutical Press</p> <p>Lilley L, Legge D. Paediatric injectable guidelines. 5th ed. Melbourne (Victoria): The Royal Children's Hospital; 2016.</p> <p>Filippi L, et al. Neonatal liver abscesses due to Candida infection effectively treated with caspofungin. <i>Acta Paediatrica</i> 2009; 98:901-9.</p>
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Document owner:	Head of Department - Neonatology		
Author / Reviewer:	KEMH & PCH Pharmacy / Neonatology Directorate		
Date first issued:	August 2008	Version:	3.1.2
Last reviewed:	October 2019, November 2020	Next review date:	Oct 2022
Endorsed by:	Neonatal Directorate Management Group	Date:	Oct 2019
Standards Applicable:	NSQHS Standards: 1  Governance 3  Infection Control 4  Medication Safety;		
Printed or personally saved electronic copies of this document are considered uncontrolled. Access the current version from the WNHS website.			